

1-14
19-2-37

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	419	Press
		Mis.
Dated	9-4-	1870.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

19/2/37

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
9th April 1870.*

No. 62. Read the following Report from the Officiating President of the Committee of the Strangers' Home, Madras, dated Madras, 7th February 1870.

The Committee of Management present their report on the working of the Home for distressed Europeans in Royapoorum during the year 1869.

2. Two hundred and twenty-nine (229) persons were received into the Home during the year of whom twenty-eight (28) remained inmates at its close. The numbers admitted in 1868 were more than double the admissions of the year, under review. Two or three aged and infirm persons are likely to require the asylum permanently.

Men	216
Women	4
Children	9
	229

3. The average period during which each individual was lodged and fed was sixty days, against forty-five days in the previous year. Very great difficulty has been experienced by the inmates of this year in obtaining work. Trade and shipping have been slack, employment on public works, railways, &c., unusually difficult to get, and the Committee have been interdicted from assisting inmates with passages to Calcutta and Bombay, Burmah or Ceylon where the Homes are likewise full of unemployed Europeans. On the other hand an exceptional number of *quasi-grooms* have been brought from the Colonies in charge of horses imported at Madras, who have at length been obliged to seek shelter in the Home. These men, it appears, ship at Australian ports under the impression that work is easily procured and remunerative in India. They embark to tend the horses; but they sign ships' articles at a shilling a month, with a promise that each shall have a small bonus from the owner of the horses on landing. No work is of course procurable here; the little ready money received is soon spent, and the men in their helplessness come to the Home with little hope or opportunity of returning to the Colonies from Madras, which has no direct return trade with Australia. Several of these persons have been inmates of the Home for months. The Colonial Governments have been addressed on the subject.

4. On the whole the conduct of the inmates generally, considering their circumstances, has been orderly. Thirty (30) instances of drunkenness—unaccompanied with serious aggravation—have been reported during the year, and two of theft from fellow-inmates. The practice of "treating" by old acquaintances who have found employment, or are casually met with, apparently accounts for most of the insobriety.

5. Two persons were brought before the Magistracy for disorderly conduct; and one was convicted during the present year of a theft committed on Christmas eve last.

6. The accompanying abstract of the Banking account of the Committee with Messrs. Arbutnot and Co. shows that the Fund is in a fairly prosperous condition. The total receipts (inclusive of balance for 1869, Rupees 199-0-10,) for the year amounted to Rupees 8485-13-11, and disbursements to Rupees 7171-13-11; leaving a balance of Rupees 1314. To which must be added Rupees 1000 transferred to fixed deposits bearing interest; total Rupees 2314.

7. Of the above sum Government contributed Rupees 2838-8-0, the rest consisted of the contributions of private donors and subscribers.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
9th April 1870.*

8. There are now sixty subscribers on the list, against twenty-five in 1869. The Committee must convey their thanks for liberal support throughout the year; but they observe with anxiety that several hitherto liberal supporters have withdrawn their subscriptions under the erroneous impression that the institution has been converted into a Government Workhouse under the Vagrancy Act XXI of 1869. This is not the case. It has as yet lost none of the characteristics of a Home, (poor as it is,) and is still a worthy object for private charity.

9. The actual cost of the institution, including house-rent and establishment, during the year was Rupees 5783-4-6; and the average cost of each inmate was Rupee 0-6-3 per diem. Rupees 400 were expended in assisting persons to proceed to places where they had good prospect of employment.

10. The Rev. O'Meara Deane has kindly joined the Committee and continued his spiritual ministrations throughout the year. He reports that "Divine service" has been very well attended—much to the credit of the inmates—at the Home."

11. To Dr. Rogers the thanks of the Committee are due for medical aid to the sick sojourners.

No. 63. ORDER THEREON, 9th April 1870, No. 419.

The foregoing Report shows a considerable diminution in the number of admissions into the "Strangers' Home" during 1869, compared with that of the preceding year; but the average period of their maintenance was longer than that for 1868. This is attributed to the difficulty experienced by the inmates in obtaining employment, and to other causes.

2. The representations that have been made to the Colonial Governments of Victoria and Western Australia will, it is hoped, effectually check the emigration of Europeans from those Colonies to India in search of employment.

3. The financial condition of the "Home" is satisfactory, there having been a balance of Rupees 2314 in favour of the Institution at the close of 1869.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Committee of the Strangers' Home.

Report on the working of the Home during 1869.

APRIL.

NO. 62-63.

10th April 1870, No. 419.

Enc.

LETTER OF THE
STRANGERS' HOME.
Madras.

PUBLIC.

1870

1870

MADRAS, 7th February 1870.

THE Committee of Management present their Report on the working of the Home for Distressed Europeans in Royapocorum during the year 1869.

Two hundred and twenty-nine (229) persons were received into the Home during the year of whom twenty-eight (28) remained inmates to its close. The numbers admitted in 1869 were more than double the admissions of the year under review. Two or three aged and infirm persons are likely to require the asylum permanently.

The average period during which each individual was lodged and fed was 60 days against 45 days in the previous year. The great difficulty has been experienced by the inmates of this year in obtaining work. Trade and shipping have been slack; employment on Public Works, Railways, &c. unusually difficult to get, and the Committee have been interdicted from assisting inmates with passages to Calcutta, and Bombay, Burmah or Ceylon where the Home was likewise full of unemployed Europeans. On the other hand an exceptional number of coolie grooms have been brought from the Colonies in charge of horses imported at Madras, who have at length been obliged to seek shelter in the Home. These men it appears, ship at Australian ports under the impression that work is easily procured and remunerative in India. They embark to tend the horses; but they sign no articles at a shilling a month, with a promise that each shall have a small bonus from the owner of the horses on landing. The work is of course procurable here; but the money received is soon spent and they are in their helplessness cast to the Home with little hope or opportunity of obtaining in the Colony from Madras, where they are not returned to Australia. Several of these persons have been inmates of the Home for months. The Colonial Governments have been addressed on the subject.

On the whole the conduct of the inmates, generally, considering their circumstances, has been orderly. Thirty (30) instances of drunkenness—unaccompanied with serious aggravation—have been reported during the

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Offg. President.

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229/3.
12/11

Order ~~100~~ 40479. 9 April 72.

L. A. L.

2 The representations
that have been made
to the Colonial Government

June 1/80
 Recd of the Committee
 of the Exchange & Bank
 of London
 the sum of £1000
 for the purchase of
 the shares of the
 Bank of England
 for the sum of £1000
 at the rate of 100
 for 1 share
 1000 shares
 at 100 each
 £100,000
 less
 1000 shares
 at 100 each
 £100,000
 £0

I am a collector
 of Victoria and Western
 Australia, it is a number
 of years ago that
 I first came to the
 colony and have since
 been engaged in the
 work of the
 Government.

2. The financial condition of the Board is satisfactory. There have been no losses or gains of capital or income of the institution for the close of 1889. The Board has been successful in its efforts to secure a better financial condition for the institution.

To the Committee of
the Strangers' Home

21/4

Report on the
of the Transportation
during 1909-

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Govt. of {1870} Madras.

Public

To

The Committee of the
Strangers' Home.
Madras.

Dated April 9

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 9 April 1870, No. 629

Nos. 62. 63.

Reviewing the Report on the
working of the Strangers'
Home during 1869.